

Commercial Horticulture

Special Alert

May 10, 2021

In This Issue...

- Weather impact on insects
- Fire blight

[Pest Predictive Calendar](#)

**IPMnet
Integrated Pest
Management for
Commercial Horticulture
extension.umd.edu/ipm**

If you work for a commercial horticultural business in the area, you can report insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems (**include location and insect stage**) found in the landscape or nursery to sgill@umd.edu

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:

Stanton Gill, Extension Specialist, IPM and Entomology for Nursery, Greenhouse and Managed Landscapes, sgill@umd.edu. 410-868-9400 (cell)

Regular Contributors:

Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Stanton Gill and Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialists) and Nancy Harding, Faculty Research Assistant

Disease Information: Karen Rane (Plant Pathologist) and David Clement (Extension Specialist)

Weed of the Week: Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator)

Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)

Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)

Design, Layout and Editing: Suzanne Klick (Technician, CMREC)

Cold Weather Impacts Insects This Week

By: Stanton Gill

Ambrosia Beetles:

We are experiencing one of the colder Mays in many years which is impacting the insect world. We checked the Lindgren traps at Brookeville and Westminster and there were no ambrosia beetles, *Xyleborinus* sp. or *Xylosandrus* sp. beetle flying over the weekend. We checked the CMREC alcohol baited Lindgren traps this morning and only two *Xylosandrus germanus* were found.

This weekend, we had strong winds on Saturday, followed by a mixture of rain, more strong winds, hail (in some areas), then rain again with a cold front blowing in with each powerful gust of wind. This is not good weather for ambrosia beetle flight.

At night, the temperature went down close to freezing in many northern counties which is keeping the ground cold. We need a reprieve from ambrosia beetles activity, and it looks like the cold weather is providing this temporary relief.

Cicadas:

In the IPM report this last Friday, Paula Shrewsbury reported cicada adults in College Park and Columbia. There was also a sighting of an adult in Clinton on May 10. These are both city areas where there are microenvironments with soil temperatures that have reached the 64 °F range. In counties such as Carroll, Upper Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, Garrett, Alleghany and Upper Baltimore County, the soil temperatures are remaining below 64 °F, the temperature at which 5th instar nymphs emerge from the ground. The long-range weekly temperature predictions is that it will warm up to the lower 60 °F range, but at night, cool down to the 40 °F range. This will keep the soil cool and delay the emergence of cicadas from the soil. In city areas, where microenvironments occur, the soil temperatures may be warm enough that 5th instar nymphs will exit their holes and adults will continue to emerge.

Fire Blight Activity

By: Stanton Gill and David Clement

Kari Peter, Penn State Fruit Plant Pathologist, conducted a Zoom session on May 7th to update people about fruit disease activity. She told IPM scouts to examine flower/fruit clusters on apples and pears to see if the early symptoms of fire blight showed up since weather was ideal for infection about a week ago. Sure enough, Stanton examined a red Bartlett pear this morning (May 10th) and found fire blight activity on the former flower cluster area, now in fruit, showing symptoms of fire blight.

Kari Peter suggest removing these fruit clusters spurs rapidly, during dry periods, to prevent the infection from moving down in the branches. Prune off well below the symphonic tissue but try to avoid taking out large branches. Kari said cutting back an infected apple or pear too severely would result in the plant putting out new growth that is easily infected in a couple of weeks.



Look for fire blight symptoms on pears and apples

Photo: Stanton Gill

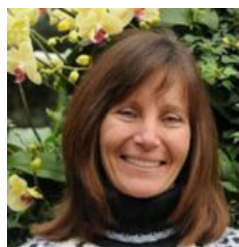
IPMnet

Integrated Pest Management for Commercial Horticulture

CONTRIBUTORS:



Stanton Gill
Extension Specialist
sgill@umd.edu
410-868-9400 (cell)



Paula Shrewsbury
Extension Specialist
pshrewsb@umd.edu



Karen Rane
Plant Pathologist
rane@umd.edu



Chuck Schuster
Retired, Extension Educator
cfs@umd.edu



David Clement
Plant Pathologist
clement@umd.edu



Andrew Ristvey
Extension Specialist
aristvey@umd.edu



Ginny Rosenkranz
Extension Educator
rosnkrnz@umd.edu



Nancy Harding
Faculty Research
Assistant

Thank you to the Maryland Arborist Association, the Landscape Contractors Association of MD, D.C. and VA, the Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association, Professional Grounds Management Society, and FALCAN for your financial support in making these weekly reports possible.

Photos are by Suzanne Klick or Stanton Gill unless stated otherwise.

The information given herein is supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by University of Maryland Extension is implied.

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.